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12 SEP 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Economic Research

FROM:

Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT:

Soviet Oil Consumption

1. Bob bowte may well have mentioned this to you, but I thought	
you'd be interested in a comment we both received	25X1
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told us that Soviet oil consumption was going down rapidly. They	
were, for instance, insuring that new electric generating plants coming	
on line were capable of being either oil, gas or coal fired. He further	
indicated that although they didn't drive as many automobiles as we, there	
was lots of room for savings in consumption of gasoline.	

- 2. His bottom line, however was that by 1985 the Soviets would be self-sufficient but not much more (not counting the Eastern European satellites).
- 3. Do we have a capability of determining whether they are taking steps that could result in a substantial decrease in oil consumption?

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